



News Release

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City centers offer shelter against summer sizzle

RIVERSIDE, Calif. –The city is again opening public municipal buildings as “cooling centers” for people to find shelter from the summer sun.

Summer temperatures in Riverside often push the mercury into the triple digits and many people don’t have ways to beat the heat, said Anthony Coletta, City of Riverside emergency services manager.

“These sites will be temporary shelters for anyone who just feels the need to come in and cool off,” he said.

The city’s community centers, senior centers and libraries will become cooling havens during their normal daytime operating hours when an excessive heat warning is issued for the area by the National Weather Service. An excessive heat warning occurs when the heat index or real temperature is expected to reach 110 degrees. The cool centers provide a climate control of 78 degrees, a source of drinking water and information on heat safety.

“Heat kills. More than 1,500 Americans succumb to summer heat every year” Coletta said. “Drink water, slow down and stay indoors as much as possible during the day. Check on the elderly, children and those with medical conditions. If you don’t have AC, stay on the lowest floor of the building, out of the sun. And if you do have AC, don’t turn it off to save money.”

Further tips on staying cool in the summer months, as well as locations, contact numbers and hours of the cooling centers, can be found at www.ReadyRiverside.com.

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